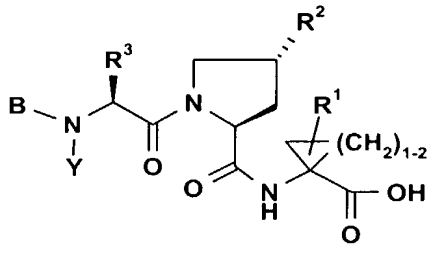
ABSTRACT

Racemates, diastereoisomers and optical isomers of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein **B** is H, a C_6 or C_{10} aryl, C_{7-16} aralkyl; Het or (lower alkyl)-Het, all of which optionally substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl; C_{1-6} alkoxy; C_{1-6} alkanoyl; hydroxy; hydroxyalkyl; halo; haloalkyl; nitro; cyano; cyanoalkyl; amino optionally substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl; amido; or (lower alkyl)amide; or

B is an acyl derivative of formula $\mathbf{R_4}$-C(O)-; a carboxyl of formula $\mathbf{R_4}$-O-C(O)-; an amide of formula $\mathbf{R_4}$-N($\mathbf{R_5}$)-C(O)-; a thioamide of formula $\mathbf{R_4}$-N($\mathbf{R_5}$)-C(S)-;or a sulfonyl of formula $\mathbf{R_4}$-SO_2; $\mathbf{R_5}$ is H or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

Y is H or C_{1-6} alkyl;

$\mathbf{R^3}$ is C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, or C_{4-10} alkylcycloalkyl, all optionally substituted with hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} thioalkyl, amido, (lower alkyl)amido, C_6 or C_{10} aryl, or C_{7-16} aralkyl;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is CH_2-$\mathbf{R_{20}}$, NH-$\mathbf{R_{20}}$, O-$\mathbf{R_{20}}$ or S-$\mathbf{R_{20}}$, wherein $\mathbf{R_{20}}$ is a saturated or unsaturated C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or C_{4-10} (alkylcycloalkyl), all of which being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with $\mathbf{R_{21}}$,

or $\mathbf{R_{20}}$ is a C_6 or C_{10} aryl or C_{7-14} aralkyl optionally substituted, or $\mathbf{R_{20}}$ is Het or (lower alkyl)-Het, both optionally substituted, Het or (lower alkyl)-Het; carboxyl; carboxy(lower alkyl); C_6 or C_{10} aryl, C_{7-14} aralkyl or Het, said aryl, aralkyl or Het being optionally substituted; and

$\mathbf{R^1}$ is H; C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, or C_{2-6} alkynyl, all optionally substituted with halogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.